

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1932

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON UK

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0269

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 : XGDS

TAGS : PFOR, UK, YS, BA, MU, SA

SUBJECT : PDRY INITIATIVE IN GULF

REF : A. DOHA 245; B. LONDON 2939; C. LONDON 03306;
D. MUSCAT 257

1. GOB FOREIGN MINISTER MARCH 3 CONFIRMED ESSENCE OMANI UNDER-
SECRETARY ALAWI'S REPORT (MUSCAT REFTEL) RE GOB RECEPTION OF
PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER MUTI' DURING RECENT VISIT.

2. GOB FOREIGN MINISTER SAID PDRY'S EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN
IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH BAHRAIN PROMPTED FIRM RESPONSE THAT,
UNTIL PDRY GOT ITS AFFAIRS IN ORDER WITH BOTH SAUDI ARABIA
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AND OMAN, GOB WAS IN NO POSITION TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. MUTI'

REPORTEDLY COMPLAINED THAT THREE OBSTACLES BLOCK IMPROVEMENT SAG-PDRY RELATIONS: A. SAUDI "PROPAGANDA" AGAINST PDRY; B. BORDER PROBLEMS, AND C. SAUDI SUPPORT FOR SOUTH YEMENI ANTI-REGIME ELEMENTS. GOB, IN RESPONSE, ASKED ABOUT PDRY PROPAGANDA AGAINST SAUDI ARABIA (WHICH MUTI' CLAIMED HAS TERMINATED) AND POINTED OUT THAT BORDER PROBLEMS AND OUTSIDE SUPPORT FOR DISSIDENT MOVEMENTS ARE HISTORICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF PENINSULA/GULF AREA WHICH ARE NOOMVALID EXCUSE FOR CONTINUED BAD RELATIONS BUT RATHER EVIDENCE OF A NEED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. GOB REPORTEDLY TOLD PDRY THAT END OF PDRY SUPPORT FOR DHOFAR REBELLION IS SINE NON QUA IMPROVEMENT PDRY-OMANI RELATIONS AND HENCE GOOD PDRY RELATIONSHIP WITH REST OF PENINSULA.

3. AS TO "CARROT-STICK APPROACH", GOB FOREIGN MINISTER EXPLAINED GOB POSITION, WHICH HAD BEEN BASIS OF TALKS WITH MUTI', AS FOLLOWS: IT IS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO TREAT PDRY AS INCORRIGIBLE PARIAH. IT IS FOOLISH TO OFFER PDRY FRIENDSHIP AND AID IN THE HOPE THAT IT WILL CHANGE ITS WAYS. THE RIGHT BALANCE IS TO POINT OUT THAT PDRY MUST LEARN TO DEAL WITH PENINSULA/GULF NEIGHBORS AS A GENREALLY UNITED GROUP WHO COLLECTIVELY HAVE THE WILL AND CAPACITY TO PROVIDE SOUTH YEMEN FABULOUS FINANCIAL BENEFITS ONCE IT ADOPTS AND ADHERES TO A POLICY OF COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION.

4. COMMENT: IF GOB FOREIGN MINISTER WAS HALF AS EFFECTIVE DURING MUTI' VISIT AS HE CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN AFTER THE FACT, PDRY VISIT HERE MUST HAVE BEEN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE.
TWINAM

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